MEUSE-ARGONNE BATTLE PART OF GENERLAL ALLIED OFFENSIVE

Continued from Page 1

nstitutes the story of the Battle

now, more specifically at the need main door, we see that it sure their hold on the invaded o assure their hold on the invaded of Belgium and northern France embraced all the territory of the kingdom, the manufacturing and aling regions of France around Lille Briey iron basin north and west of the Germans had constructed, during

possession, four successive determine of stems.

The first of these systems which, as early as the spring of 1917, had come to be known as the Hindenburg line, was the longest and also the strongest of the four. Until the latter part of September, 1918, it was uneverbroken, though the Germans themselves had advanced far beyond it on several wide sectors during their gigantic sorties of the spring and summer of 1918. It was the front line of defense from the sencoast to Metz, and its interlucing trench systems were exceedingly strong and organized to depths of from three or four to sometimes as much as ten kilometers.

Second Line from Lille to I.n Pere

Second Line from Lille to La Fere

Behind it a second line ran from Lill athward in front of Cambral to La Fère east to the Aisne, behill n to the Argonne forest an Meuse to Ornes, immediatel first line down to the front of

case the Germans should be forced on the coast, started at the Dutch and followed the track of the Ly: and followed the track of the LS' one Ghent to Lille, thence turning it by Landrecles and Mézleres to The fourth line ran from Ghent to behind the Escaut or Scheldt river to Valenciennes, where it swunn he Meune near Givet and then south that stream to Mézleres, where i ne third line.

Front a Gigantic Salient

Front a Gigantic Salient
his was true for a very simple reason, whole of Gernany's western front was observed in the second of t

le in falling back first to the line of use between their front north of and the Dutch frontier near Mass-which would constitute a retired corresponding roughly to the er zone at St. Mibiel. But, again, the

Back on Hindenburg Line

Back on Hindenburg Line
the last week in September, 1918, the
er-offensive operations of the Ailled
s, begun on July 18, had resulted in
go back the enemy from the several
tast which he had forced by his spring
numer attacks to his line of departure
arch 21—the Hindenburg line.
t, though the battle front was thus
to where it had been six months
re, there had occurred a radical change
e relative strength and morale of this
sing forces. In Murch and earlier of
a high and at the remains superiority in
ports and their munistined confidence
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to replace their losses but actually to have the mumbers they had disposed in March, while success had raised the spirits of all to an enthusiasm of confidence. The feeling had become general that at last the formidable enemy had done his utmost and had been proved not invincible, and the Armies were eager to put to the test of battle their growing belief that he was, in fact, ripe for total overthrow.

When the Allied supreme command, actually the manner of the feeling in harmony with the universal desired determined to force the fighting rearry decision, the attack of the modern of the feeling in harmony with the universal desired determined to force the fighting rearry decision, the attack of the fine of the feeling of the feeli

To Engage All of Enemy

To Engage All of Enemy
Every considerable hody of the enemy
was to be engaged, and there were thus to
be left none free to reinter other hardnessed fronts. It may be worth while to
note once move of the the the successive move of the the the successive move delivered.

Gen. Franchet d'Esperey launched the attack on the Macedonian
front which at once broke through the line
of the Bulgarian armies and speedily annihilated them.

of the Bulgarian armies and speedily anni-hilated them.

On September 23 the British army under General Albenhy assailed the Turks in Pal-estine with results quite as rapid and de-cisive. On September 26 General Persh-ing's First American Army, with nine div-sions in line, and General Persh-tions in line, and General Givisions in Fourth French and the vital portion of the German Western front centering on the portion of the Hindenburg fine, though poy-

Argonne forest from the Meuse river to the Sulppe river.

On September 27 General Horne's First British Army, with nine divisions in line, and General Byng's Third British Army, with eight divisions by the preceding two months, the enemy had been driven back from the proof, line between Gouzeaucourt and the Hindestone Hinter of the Sulpher of the Su

of eight days, the successive blows of armies extending from Asia Minor to the English Channel were delivered like nammer strokes upon the vital fronts of the Central Powers.

To come now, specifically to the gupreme battle of the American forces, between the hattle of the American forces, between the more than ten days after the reduction of the St. Miniel salient, an operation which was completed by the 15th of September. Even before that date much of the Army artillery and many of the corps troops which had taken part in the attack on the sector between the Meuse river and the western edge of the Argonne forcest.

About September 20 the zone of the First American Arny was extended westward by taking over the whole army sector previously occupied by the Second French Army under General Hirschauer from a point just east of Verdum to La Harazée, in the Art on the

Formidably Fortified Positions

Forest the Supreme Obstacle

unity on the western side to the valley of the Aisne, into which the Air flows through the gap of Grand Pré, about 15 kilometers north of La Harazée.

The southern half of the plateau and forcest was within the Ailiod lines, the northern half within the German. Though they made several attacks upon it before and during 1915, the French were never able to break through the German front in the forest, and in the years which had dansed since the last of these randor strengthened and deepened their zone of resistance by interlucing with bear were the dense timber and great and expendent with the dense timber and since the dense they are the second of the s

Salient 15 Kilometers in Bepth

Deep Raids East of Mense

On the right of the First American Army seas to assist the Attack by Johning the artil-lery bombardment and by making deep raids along its front. The 2nd Colonial



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In Front of Mentfaucon

Coming now to the 5th Army Corps, we find that the 7sth Division, of Virginia and Mnryland National Army troops, under Maj. Gen. Joseph E. Kuhn, had directly in front of it the Forges brook and the strongly organized village of Maiancourt, but, far more formidable still, seven kilometers beyond these obstacles it had Montfaucon itself, long regarded by the French as impregnable, where a desperate defense was to be expected.

The initial attack was delivered by the 314th Infantry on the right and the 314th Infantry on the ieft. The 57th Artillery Brigade, the 19th Division for the operation, and both battalions of the 147th Field Artillery of this brigade were designated as accompanying artillery. In reserve were the 315th and 316th Infantry.

The 37th Division, of Ohio National Guard, under Maj. Gen. C. S. Farnsworth, Jumping off from the edge of Avoccurt, was to go through the Bols de Montfaucon and pass to the west 47th Infantry led the attack on the right and the 145th on the left, with the 145th and 145th on the left, with the 145th and 145th on the left, with the 145th and 145th on The 191s Division, composed of National Army troops from seven of the Northwestern and Pacific Coast States, under Maj. Gen. William H. Johnston, had to are corpus the Buand for Security in reserve. The 55th Artillery Brigade and three companies of small French tanks were attached to the division.

The 31st Division, composed of National Army troops from seven of the Northwestern and Pacific Coast States, under Maj. Gen. William H. Johnston, had to are easier despected to Cosmes. It went in with the 35th Infantry on the left, the 352nd and 364th Infantry in reserve.

From the castern edge of the abrupt peak of Vauquois, over which the French and

To Sweep Slopes Lengthwise

Infantry on the right, one battalion 112th Infantry on the left, the 111th Infantry and two battalions of the 109th being in support.

The 77th Division, of National Army

Assisted by Flanking Movements

Assisted by Flanking Movements
It was to be the difficult task of the 77th
Division to clear the enemy from the wilderness of the Argonne forest, a wilderness
comparable in every way with the Wilderness of Virginia, except that its topography
was more rugged and that the scarce
modern warfare and that the scarce
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property harder to overcome. The
topic advantage of the 77th Division in attacking a region hitherto regarded as utterly impregnable lay in the fact that the
flanking operations on either side of the
forest would constantly assist them in
forcing their way forward.

Owing to the length of the front, all four
Infantry regiments attacked in line, the
305th on the right, then the 306th, 307th
and 308th. A regiment of the 32nd Division, the 368th which was assigned to the
special missin of the successful in accomplishing it.
Thus the vast American assaulting line

assault was to go over.



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Minute Tapioca

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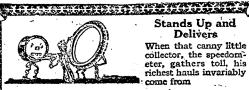
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